

Whitewater Region - Regional Meeting

March 3, 2023, Friday, 10:00-11:00am local time

New Castle Armory/Community Center, 1537 Grand Avenue, New Castle, IN 47362

There is no cost to attend but registration is appreciated. Register [here](#).

The IFA has applied for 1 CEU for operators.

Agenda

1. Welcome from New Castle Utilities (5 min)
2. Introductions (5 min)
 - a. Name, utility, title, professional experience (how long have you been in your role?)
 - b. Any proposed 2023 IFA-funded capital projects?
3. Round Table - possible discussion topics (45min)
 - a. Hydrant O&M – best practices
 - b. Shared Resources/Assistance:
 - i. Create a list of services utilities in this group provide along with contact list that can be used to potentially allow “neighborly” assistance when needed.
 - ii. Work to create schedule of safety needs and potentially share cost of training.
 - c. Staffing: Work to create “How To’s” that can be shared amongst this group to look for recruiting staff in/from:
 - i. High Schools/Universities
 - ii. Veterans groups
 - iii. “Work Release” programs
 - d. Employee relations:
 - i. Work to create a succession planning blueprint to share across the group?
4. Next meeting (5 min)
 - a. Frequency: quarterly
 - b. When: April/May/June
 - c. Where: Eaton
 - d. Third quarter July/Aug/Sept TBD?
 - e. At the last meeting we agreed to be an informal group, with no chair, but I (Pat Smoker) was volunteered to set/start agendas....can be changed
 - f. Suggestions for future topics of discussion?
 - g. Any other suggestions?
5. Adjourn

The purpose of the meetings is to build on the benefits that come from neighboring utilities collaborating to solve similar issues. These meetings are for utility personnel, board members, and elected officials, and only these individuals can meet the attendance requirement. Consultants and contractors are welcome to attend when they attend at the invitation of a utility who is also attending. Utilities may attend a regional meeting outside of their region, but the intention is that they attend one in their region to get the benefits of interacting with their neighbors.

As a reminder, utilities are required to attend at least one regional meeting a year and attending is required for funding assistance from the IFA (IC 5-1.2-11.5-5). The IFA tracks attendance on a 12-month rolling basis. For example, if your utility attended on April 2, 2021, your utility meets the requirement of the rule until April 2, 2022. The list of utilities who have attended a regional meeting is available on the IFA website. <https://www.in.gov/ifa/regional-planning-meetings>